

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 20, 1919

WHOLE NUMBER 2083

CONVENTION OF DISTRICT MEN

X-Cel-All Company's Plant Was Scene of Lively Convention on Saturday.

COMPANY HAS NEW LINES

Auto Tires, Gas Engines, Oils and Cream Separators to Be Sold in the Future.

The X-Cel-All District Managers' meeting held at the company's plant in this city last Saturday was well attended and was one of the best meetings held.

The men who attended the meeting came from all parts of Michigan and each man has from 5 to 30 men under him, making a selling force of over 200. The reports from the men were gratifying and showed a great future business for the company.

Sales Manager Kitch in a report read early in the meeting told the men what united efforts of the sales force had done in the past two and one-half months. He said the December business increase over November was one and two-thirds per cent, January increase over December of one and four-fifths per cent and February up to the 15th over January of one and three-fourths per cent. The week ending February 15, only lacked a few dollars of coming up to the best week during the year 1918.

Each of the district men reported on conditions in his territory and without exceptions, every man was very free in expressing the belief that this year's business would more than double last year and that X-Cel-All would be a universal household word in Michigan before the end of the year. From the reports of the men one would be led to believe the coming season would be a prosperous one through the state of Michigan.

Luncheon was served by the ladies of the clerical force in the offices and it proved that the X-Cel-All force would all make good cooks and housekeepers, contrary to the saying that office work spoils women for home makers.

The afternoon was spent in discussing the field, field men and how best to make each man 100 per cent efficient for the increasing business that is coming to them daily.

Mr. Modena, an expert salesman of Chicago, who recently came with the company and is now acting as general field manager under General Sales Manager Kitch, gave a very interesting and helpful talk to the men on efficiency and showed them how to better care for the field as well as show them greater possibilities in their field, that even now, the business was only a small unit of what could be expected in the future.

Before the close of the meeting the men were introduced to a new line of merchandise, that has just been added, which consists of automobile tires, tubes, sanitary toilets, gas engines, cream separators and lubricating oils.

Factory Manager Getchel took up the line of tires and tubes and gave a demonstration and explanation of the X-Cel-All qualities. The other articles were gone over by the men and all agreed that General Manager Bamforth had made a great selection in securing the particular make of goods he did, to be sold under the same brand guarantee that X-Cel-All paint was sold under the X-Cel-All trade mark.

The X-Cel-All family spirit prevailed throughout the day and the men will go back to their fields with greater hopes and encouragement and to work for a final victory to more than double the business over last year's work.

The next meeting will be held in Saginaw in March and the April meeting in Grand Rapids. This is done for the help it will give the district men and to make it more convenient for them during these busy months.

The officers and department heads are all looking forward for the development and growth that will demand more factory and office room before the end of the year and the preparations already have been made and considered to that end.

The X-Cel-All idea and plan, as all know, who have become familiar with same, is bound to make an institution that will put our town name in more homes than most any institution that could of been secured for Alma.

PICK THE DEBATERS

The debaters at Alma college to represent the institution in the annual triangular debates with Hope and Olivet colleges have been chosen, although not assigned to the sides as yet. The men chosen are Howard Burch, Lyle Barnhart, Lee Sharrar, and Paul Cash, old debaters, and Wayne Wenger, Wyatt, Olmstead and Allen, the latter three from last year's high school debating teams.

The question to be debated by the three colleges this year is, "Resolved, That the Plan Suggested by McAdoo for Government Railroads Should not be Established until January 1, 1924."

CONVENTION

Republicans Nominated Strong Ticket at State Convention.

At the Republican State convention held at Lansing the fore part of the week, Gratiot county was represented for the first time with women on the delegation. Mrs. V. H. Shepard of this city, Mrs. F. H. Harrington of Ithaca, Mrs. E. A. Branch of St. Louis, and Mrs. W. G. West of St. Louis. Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. A. R. Wheeler of St. Louis also attended the convention, showing that the ladies of the county are taking a great interest in politics and that they intend to be a vital factor in Gratiot in the future.

At the state convention the following ticket was nominated:

Justice of the Supreme court: Russell C. Ostrander of Lansing and John E. Bird of Adrian.

Regents of the University of Michigan: Benjamin S. Hanchett of Grand Rapids and Dr. Lucius L. Hubbard of Houghton.

Superintendent of Public Instruction: Fred T. Keeler of Mt. Pleasant.

State Board of Agriculture: Mrs. Dora H. Stockman of Lansing and L. Whitney Watkins of Jackson.

Member of the Board of Education: Frank Cody of Detroit.

At the election of the members of the state central committee by the convention C. F. Brown of this city was elected as a member of the committee from the eighth district. Following the election of the committee Burt D. Cady of Port Huron was re-elected as chairman of the committee by a unanimous vote.

HOME OF SORROW

NOW COMFORTED

Heart of City is Opened to Aid Stricken, Sorrowing Suffering Family.

The city council Tuesday evening expressed itself against a mother of six children being required to rest in the potter's field in the cemetery, the council holding the view that a mother of that number of children was worthy of a better resting place, once its attention had been called to the Beam family of this city.

The case is one that has been attracting a great deal of attention in the third ward and is perhaps one of the saddest which has been called to the attention of the authorities in some time.

Six little children are left motherless with only a father, who has been bed-ridden for months, to care for them and were it not for the highly commendable spirit of the ladies of the third ward the condition of the family would be most acute with the six children, one just an infant, left behind without the loving, caressing attention that a mother gives to her children.

With her husband ill in bed Mrs. Beam had been courageous facing a cold, hard, bitter world, striving against what seemed to be the impossible, the task of feeding, clothing and caring for five children and a sick husband.

She obtained work, working until she could labor no longer, labored until just before she became the mother of the sixth child of the family was taken ill and died, and those dependent upon the loving care of this brave woman, were left alone, six small children and a sick husband.

Word of the condition of the family spread around the neighborhood, and in addition to securing free rent, which had been granted the mother by the Little Rock Coal company, the neighbors came in. Now the ladies of the third ward have an organization formed to care for this family. Some lady goes to the home each day, and cares for the husband and those little children, striving in this respect to replace as well she might, the loving care of the departed mother.

A small fund was raised by these ladies, that the mother, brave and courageous, the honored mother of six children, might not lie in the potter's field.

Then an appeal was taken to the council, that this fund might be saved for the purchase of food and clothes for the family. The council, feeling the worth of the woman recommended that the Cemetery Board donate to the Beam family a lot in the cemetery that the mother of the six children, worthy of honor, might find a final resting place elsewhere than in the potter's field. It did not seem right—it could not be right—that such a woman should rest in the potter's field, just because she had been a little more unfortunate than her sisters in the world, which she had so bravely faced with such sublime courage that all must sooner or later come right. May she rest and find the peace that should be hers.

TEACHERS HELD DANCE

Last Saturday evening the teachers of the Alma public schools held a dancing party in the high school gymnasium, which was attended by about forty couples. The gymnasium was very prettily decorated with flags and bunting for the event. Music was furnished by Morton's orchestra. Several married couples were their guests. All report a fine evening.

Michigan grown spring wheat, extra quality for 1919, seedling \$2.40. Alma Grain and Lumber Co. 83-41-c

Smoke the best, Wagners. 64-1f

CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR



CHARLES R. MURPHY

GOOD CANDIDATES ASK NOMINATION

Some of City's Best Business Men Filed the Initiatory Petitions

PRIMARY COMES MARCH 10

Two Men are to Be Nominated for Each of Elective Offices Under New Charter.

The end of the final day for the filing of petitions for candidates to be nominated at the primaries to be held March 5, revealed the fact that only two men had petitions in the hands of the city clerk for the office of mayor, these being Henry H. Soule and Charles R. Murphy. As a result both will be nominated at the primary and both will be candidates for the office at the spring election April 7.

In establishing the commission form in Alma, the commission is to consist of four members, two of whom are to be elected every two years. As a result in starting the commission form, it was necessary to file petitions for commissioners for a full term of four years and a short term of two years.

Petitions were filed for commissioner for four years by John C. Chick, Jasper W. Blakely, Floyd H. Glass and Win. Wilson. As the charter provides that the two receiving the highest number of votes for each office at the primary shall be candidates for an office at the spring election, all four will then be candidates, there being two offices for commissioner for four years to be filled.

For the two year term petitions have been filed for five candidates and as a result one of these will be thrown out at the primary election, while four continue through as candidates at the spring election. These men are J. M. Montigel, A. J. Archer, Phillip W. Creaser, Frank E. Pollack and Nelson Fullerton.

For justice of the peace only one petition was filed, this being for William H. Rogers, whose term expires (Continued on page four)

BUSINESS MAN TO BE MAYOR

Henry H. Soule and Charles R. Murphy Candidates for Nomination.

A CLOSE VOTE EXPECTED

Both Men Rated High in City as Being Hustling, Aggressive Men.

Two of the best and most highly regarded business men of the city of Alma are slated to oppose each other at the primaries March 10 and at the city election April 7, for the office of mayor of the city under the commission form of government. They are Charles R. Murphy and Henry H. Soule.

Charles R. Murphy is not a newcomer in politics. He was previously served Alma as city treasurer, and in that office brought his ability into play, filling the office to the satisfaction of everyone. Last year he was a candidate for mayor on the Democratic ticket, being defeated by Mayor Francis King by just 15 votes.

Henry H. Soule is breaking into politics for the first time under the non-partisan election required by the commission form of government. He is breaking into politics not through any desire of his own, but by pressure of many friends.

The fray between Mr. Murphy and Mr. Soule for the election is bound to be a friendly one. The men are close friends, clean and aggressive business men. Their business aggressiveness, however, will not enter into their campaigns for the office. The business men feel that with these two men as candidates for the office of mayor, that the two strongest candidates in Alma have been selected.

As regards Alma, they are neither Democrat or Republican, but rather just hustling Alma business men, who will do their best for the city if elected. Their names will be on the ballot with no party designation as in the past. Pick the man you think will be the best for Alma and vote for him at the primary and at the spring election. You know them both.

GETS D. S. C.

Lieutenant Verne E. Rogers Wins High Honors With Army.

Lieutenant Verne E. Rogers, a graduate of Alma college with the class of 1914, well known throughout the state because of his athletic ability, has been granted the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism on the field of battle in France.

In one battle his men were held up by a heavy machine gun fire from a nest directly ahead of his men. Second Lieutenant, now First Lieutenant Rogers, and a corporal went around and attacked the machine gun nest, alone from the side and routed the Germans, who were holding the nest, making it possible for his men to advance. The act was an extremely brave one, and merited the reward which it brought.

While in college here Rogers was member of the football and base ball teams every year that he was in college. (Continued on page four)

CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR



HENRY H. SOULE

WARD SCHOOL IS NOW OPEN

New Ward School Was Opened in East End of City Monday.

STRUCTURE COST \$45,000

Nearly Four Hundred Pupils from Other Over-crowded Buildings There Now.

The new Republic ward school at the corner of Eastward and Republic, which has just been completed at a cost of \$45,000, was opened the first of this week, there being about 370 pupils transferred to this school from the other schools of the city.

In spite of the fact that this school has been opened the school district is still facing crowded conditions in the various buildings, indicating that very soon the proposition of another new ward school will come up in Alma. Although this number of pupils has been transferred to the new building, it has still been found necessary to use the basement rooms of the Lincoln school for class rooms. The additional room secured by the new structure is such, however, that half day sessions, which have been held so far this year in several of the grades have been done away with, which is a source of gratification to the school authorities.

In transferring some of the pupils to the new building, some of the teachers who were in the other buildings have been transferred also, and a few others have been added to the list of instructors, temporarily at least. Miss Stitt is the principal of this school. The teachers and the grades they teach in the new building are as follows: Mrs. Merrill Stuckey, kindergarten; Mrs. Clifford Cummings, sub-primary; Miss Hayward, first grade; Miss Hood, fourth grade; Miss Orser, fifth grade; Miss Stitt, sixth grade; Miss Trapp, seventh grade.

The school has four rooms on the first floor, one of which is a large kindergarten room, which is located (Continued on page four)

G. S. YOUNG DEAD

Well Known Resident of City Died Friday After Weeks of Illness.

After some weeks of illness George S. Young, died at Brainerd hospital Friday morning, at the age of 62 years.

Mr. Young was a pioneer citizen of this city, and for some years took a very active part in local politics. In 1903 and again in 1904 he served Alma, then a village, as its executive head.

He was well known throughout this section of the state as a contractor and builder. He constructed the city hall for the city of Alma and also Wright Hall for A. W. Wright who gave the structure to Alma college.

The funeral was held on Sunday in charge of the Masonic lodge, of which he was a member, and interment was made in Riverside cemetery.

AUCTION SALE

There will be a dispersion sale of registered stock at the Pioneer farm, five miles west and two miles south of Alma on March 5, commencing at 12:30 o'clock, which time twenty head of registered shorthorns will be offered for sale. Seven heifers and cows not registered, but of pure breed will also be sold, as will be sixty head of brood ewes. The terms are cash or bankable paper for eight months at seven per cent interest. The stock is owned by George E. Sharrar and Lee Gee. J. D. Helman is the auctioneer and Karl R. Adams, the clerk.

FORMAL OPENING OF CLUB IS SATURDAY

Gratiot County Club House Will Be Completely Ready For Its Opening.

The Gratiot County club's new clubhouse at the corner of South Woodworth and East Center streets will be formally opened to the public Saturday, February 22, and will remain open for the public until Tuesday, February 25. During this time the club members, who consist of business and professional men of the county, and their friends are cordially invited to inspect the place. The invitation to inspect the clubhouse is not confined to the people of Alma, but includes the business and professional men of the county, many of whom, outside of Alma, are members of the new organization.

The work of remodeling the structure is almost completed, and will be finished by Friday night. During the past week a new floor has been laid in the dining room of the club, and this room decorated, the kitchen decorated, and the hall decorated on the first floor.

On the second floor the work of remodeling was greater than that on the first floor. Partitions were taken out between some of the rooms, and a single large room made in this way, which has been decorated and will be used as a pool and billiard hall, three of these tables having been installed during the past few days. On this floor there is also a conference room for the use of the directors.

On the first floor in addition to the dining room and kitchen, there are three other rooms, which are located on the south side of the clubhouse. Two of these are large rooms for the use of club members and the other a smaller one, which is to be used as a sales stand.

MRS. PROUD DEAD

Alma Woman Died of Pneumonia Sunday While at Jackson.

Mrs. Bertha Proud of this city, died at 7:45 Sunday, February 16, following an illness of pneumonia. Her death came as a shock to her friends in this city.

The body was brought to Alma on Monday and the funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at the chapel in Riverside cemetery, Rev. Duffey of the Methodist Episcopal church officiating.

Mrs. Proud is survived by her aged mother, Mrs. Ella Lyon, of Shepherd; two sisters, Mrs. Eunice Thorne of Des Moines, Iowa, and Mrs. Rena Hamilton of Troy, Montana, and by her husband, W. S. Proud, of this city. Among those from out of the city who attended the funeral were her aged mother, Mrs. Lyon, of Shepherd, R. Young of Dowagiac, Mrs. Eunice Thorne of Des Moines, Mrs. Lila Watkins of Hastings and Mrs. C. E. Hagan of Mt. Pleasant.

Following the funeral service at the chapel in the cemetery, the body was placed in the vault until spring.

GRATIOT GRANGE MEETS

The Gratiot county Granges will hold a number of meetings during the month of March, the object of which will be the boosting of Grange cooperation in Grange shipping associations. T. W. Michael, deputy of the Michigan State Grange will speak at each of the meetings.

The meetings will be held at the various Grange headquarters as follows: Arcadia Grange Monday, March 3; Pleasant Valley Grange Tuesday, March 4; Monitor Grange Wednesday, March 6; North Wheeler Grange Thursday, March 6; Ashley Grange Friday, March 7; Ithaca Grange Monday, March 10; Liberty Grange Tuesday, March 11; Newark Grange Wednesday, March 12; Pomperoy Grange Thursday, March 13; and the Elm Hall Grange Friday, March 14.

Best ice cream. DeLuxe. 77-1f-c

APPROPRIATION IS ASKED FOR

Fordney Asks Money for Post Office Site in Alma from Congress.

IS A FIRST CLASS OFFICE

Amount of Business This Past Year Puts Alma Out of the Second Class.

An honest to goodness federal building for a post office in the city of Alma seems to be more than a slight possibility in the near future, the public buildings and grounds committee of the House of Representatives having before it for its consideration one small item, which if it goes through as a portion of this bill, will call for an appropriation of \$10,000 for the purchase of a post office site in Alma.

When the congressmen were asked to put in their items for this bill, Joseph W. Fordney of this district promptly presented this item for a building site in Alma, and it is "Joe's" intention to see it through congress if possible, as he realizes that Alma is highly deserving of a post office building.

During the past few years the business of the Alma post office has been growing by leaps and bounds, and the past year the business has been such that the office is now out of the second class and will be known as a first class office. The receipts of the local office, obtained yesterday from Assistant Postmaster Howard U. Lake, show a business for 1918 of \$49,418.64. As the district office of the county the total receipts which went through the office were \$85,129.82. The Ithaca office is not included in the district, but it is certain that the Alma post office now does more business than all of the other post offices in the county together.

As \$40,000 is the required amount of business for an office to obtain a rating as a first class office, the Alma post office is now such an office, but will probably not receive the formal rating before May.

The increased receipts of the past few years would indicate that the Alma office is one of the busiest of the state. In addition to this it is one of the few offices in Michigan that is turning a revenue to Uncle Sam over the cost of operating the office. It was estimated by Mr. Lake yesterday that the Alma office clears about 60 per cent of its receipts for the government.

BIG YEAR AHEAD

Republic to Effect Rapid Conversion of Manufacturing Facilities.

DELPHIANS ORGANIZE

The Alma Delphian chapter was organized Monday evening in the room over the Alma State Savings bank by the state organizers, Mrs. Blanche G. Ford and Mrs. Stella A. Ellis of Detroit.

This chapter of a nation-wide educational organization for social progress, higher education and personal improvement will also consider subjects affecting the progress and welfare of the community.

The meetings will be held alternate Mondays at place of organization and the year book "Epochs of Progress" will be followed. The first regular meeting will be held Monday at 7:30 p. m.; subject "Primitive Man," discussion led by Mrs. A. F. Wilkins.

All Delphian members are requested to be present as business of importance will come before the meeting.

EIGHTH GOLD STAR

Another Has Been Added to College Service Flag.

Again is the name of an Alma college man on the honor roll. Ralph Sawvel, who was a student in '16 and '17, is dead from wounds received in battle. He carried these wounds for some time and was on his way home at the time of his death. He was a very determined character and of a very cheerful nature. Those who knew him best called him "Smiles."

His star is the fifth in row thirteen on the service flag; from loyal blue it has now changed to shining gold. Alma regrets the loss of a brother, but she rejoices over the courage and glory of the supreme sacrifice on the field of honor.

REOPEN SALES ROOMS

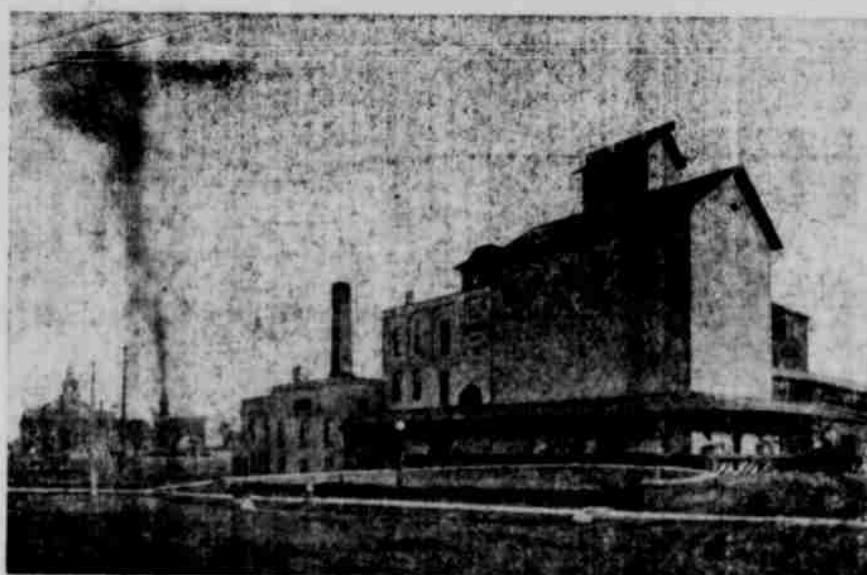
The Gratiot Motor Sales company has reopened its salesrooms and garage on South Gratiot avenue, which will again be under the management of W. J. Sommerville. The Gratiot Motor Sales company has the agency for the Mitchell automobiles and will also sell the Dodge automobiles.

NOTICE TO AUTO OWNERS

Attention is called to the fact that the Secretary of State says that anyone operating an automobile after the first of the year in an old license is violating the law. Licenses must now be procured for automobiles which are being used or are about to follow. 82-1-c Oscar Vibber.

Best candies. DeLuxe. 77-1f-c

Are Reorganizing the Alma Grain & Lumber Co.



After some weeks spent in going over the assets of The Alma Grain & Lumber company, a committee from the Alma Board of Trade has secured an option on the property, covering the entire assets, and is planning on taking over the company and again putting it in active operation in Alma.

The assets of the Alma Grain & Lumber company consist of the water power, water rights, real estate, flouring mill, elevators, stock and good will, which, after careful survey by the Board of Trade committee is believed to be worth far more than indicated on the books of the company, which has a capitalization of \$100,000.00.

The Board of Trade through its committee, which consists of C. F. Brown, president of the board, D. L.

Johnson, secretary; Harry Gerber, William W. Cushing, J. M. Montigel, W. T. Naldret, J. W. Blakely and Henry H. Soule, as chairman or the committee, is now offering to the residents of Alma and of Gratiot county a chance to purchase stock in this company. This committee from the Board of Trade, which has gone most carefully into the assets of the company and gone over the books, feels that with the proper management that the company will pay large dividends on the stock, and heartily recommends the purchase of it.

In taking over this company the Board of Trade feels that it is filling a long felt need in this city in establishing a market in Alma for the farm produce, hay, beans, wheat, etc., of the county, giving the farmers a

splendid opportunity to find a market right at their doors for their produce, which will make it unnecessary in the future to go out of the way several miles to dispose of this product.

In addition it will give the farmers and opportunity to purchase flour, dairy feeds, seed, etc., right at home, making it unnecessary to have these shipped in, or to go miles out of the way to obtain them.

Any member of the Board of Trade committee will most cheerfully furnish any information in regard to the company and about the stock to those who may be interested in a good investment and in a proposition that has much promise for the future, as a business and as an aid in making Alma a market center.